

b.) Remarks

Claim 4 has been cancelled and claim 5 amended in order to maintain its dependency. Additionally, claims 10 and 11 are amended without waiver or prejudice in order to reduce the issues.

Claims 4-6, 10 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the present invention. Claims 4-6 are also rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not adequately described in the specification as filed. In support of the rejections, the Examiner states the term "stringent conditions" has no accepted meaning in the art. Although these rejections are, respectfully submitted, without basis in fact, that term has been deleted solely in order to expedite allowance of this application.^{1/}

Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Hillier et al., N21024. In response, again solely in order to reduce the issues, that claim has been cancelled.

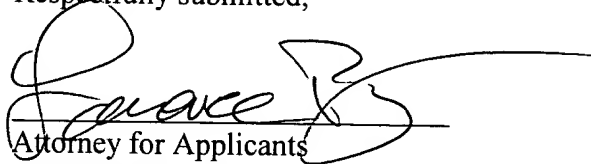
In view of the above amendments, Applicants submit that all of the Examiner's concerns are now overcome and the claims are now in allowable condition. Accordingly, reconsideration and prompt passage to issue of this application is earnestly solicited.

Claims 3, 5, 6, 10 and 11 remain presented for continued prosecution.

^{1/} Such claims may, of course, be presented in a divisional application and the rejection addressed on the merits therein, e.g., by way of Declaration under Rule 132, etc.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lawrence S. Perry", is written over a horizontal line.

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